

Remarks

After careful consideration of the outstanding Office Action, this application has been amended accordingly, and favorable reconsideration on the merits thereof is at this time respectfully requested.

The undersigned will consider the objections/rejections chronologically as set forth in the Office Action beginning at page 2, under the caption "Drawings."

The Examiner objected to the phraseology "two mutually orthogonal slotted links (24)" recited in claims 19 through 21, because the latter feature was not shown in the drawings. However, the Examiner acknowledged that the latter feature must either be shown in the drawings or the latter-quoted language cancelled from the claims. The undersigned has proceeded by illustrating in Figure 4 the "two mutually orthogonal slotted links (24)," and has amended the specification accordingly, both absent new matter. The new sentence added to paragraph [0034] includes the specific language of claims 19 through 21 which are "**original**" claims. Thus, the specific reference to the orthogonal slotted links 24 finds support in the original claims as filed and in the subsequent more specific description thereof beginning after the added sentence with – "Deflecting the control lever 8 in the direction ... of the respective slotted link 24 for the travelling or steering motion, respectively. The slotted link 24 for the travelling motion slides on the turnover 26 that also limits the outer position thereof. Shifted by 90°, the steering motion slides on the slotted link 24 for the travelling motion." Reference to "not illustrated in the drawings" has been dropped in favor of reference numeral – 24 –, and the latter-quoted phraseology clearly supports the "orthogonal" (90°) relationship of the slotted links. Accordingly, approval of the drawing changes to Figure 4 and the specification is herewith respectfully requested.

At page 3 of the Office Action, paragraphs 2 and 3, the Examiner rejected claims 10 through 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, the first paragraph thereof, because of the "unclear" nature of the recitation of "a traction drive." Unfortunately, whatever might be the confusion with respect to the meaning of "traction drive," the same was created by an inadvertent and ministerial error in translating the German word "Fahrantrieb." The latter word was translated in three different ways and the latter has been corrected by appropriately amending the specification. Accordingly, the withdrawal of the latter rejection is believed to be in order and is herewith respectfully requested.

Claims 10 through 23 were also rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being "indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim" Applicant's invention.

Referencing claim 10, the phraseology "in particular" has been cancelled and the "means" recited in line 12 has been changed to correspond to the statutory format, namely, "means for detecting," etc. (35 U.S.C. § 112, last paragraph, "An element in a claim for a combination may be expressed as a means ... for performing a specified function without the recital of structure.")

In addition, the "instantaneous rotation angle" did lack antecedent basis and the latter has been corrected by changing "instantaneous" to – actual –.

The latter changes and like changes in independent method claim 23 are urged to place both claims in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, the withdrawal of the rejection based upon the latter statutory provision is herewith respectfully requested.

The Examiner was kind enough to indicate that "Claims 10-23 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 1st and 2nd paragraphs, respectively, set forth in this Office Action." Such


has been done by the undersigned, and thus the formal allowance of claims 10 through 23 at an early date would be most appreciated.

In view of the foregoing, the formal allowance of this application is herewith again respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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Attachments: Figures 4 (Annotated and Replacement Sheets) - 2

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please change Figure 4, as duly noted in red on the attached "Annotated Sheet" showing drawing changes and substitute therefor in clean/corrected form the attached Figure 4 "Replacement Sheet."